

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Claims 1-3 are pending in this application. Claim 1 is independent.

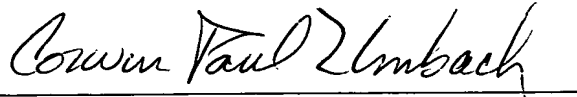
Claims 1-4 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 1-9 of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/823,564 (corresponding to U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US2004/0209121A1 ("Yajima")). To obviate the rejection, a Terminal Disclaimer over Application No. 10/823,564 is attached.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is necessary in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attached: Terminal Disclaimer over Application No. 10/823,564

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